WILMINGTON onTAP

City of Wilmington Public Utilities Department

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Volume 3 Number 2

Inside this issue

City Water meters go high-tech

This spring, 23,000 of the city's water meters began being replaced with new, more accurate meters. Of the 23,000 water meters to be installed, approximately 6,000 will have electronic registers that will allow a meter reading to be taken from the meter reader's vehicle. The new Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) System proposed for the 6,000 meters is part of a trial program to be phased in over time if the results are positive and cost effective.

In addition to lowering meter reading labor costs, the AMR system increases meter reader safety, increases reading accuracy, and improves customer service. Best of all, you will not be charged for the meters or the installation.

Meters being replaced are at least 12 years old. It is estimated that the project will be completed within one year. The replacement will coincide with the city's water meter reading schedule. It will take approximately 10-15 minutes to replace an average residential meter, which will cause a loss of water pressure for 5 to 10 minutes. VSI Meter Services, Inc. of Pennsylvania has been contracted to install the meters.

Customers will be notified in advance of the installation schedule in their area. For medical or life threatening issues due to loss of water service or with questions or problems after installation, contact the VSI customer call center at 1-866-478-2336.

It will take approximately 10-15 minutes to replace an average residential meter, which will cause a loss of water pressure for 5 to 10 minutes.

More Ways to Pay Online or by Phone

We've made it even easier— now you have even more options to choose from. Pay your bill online or by phone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week using your credit or debit card. Online and telephone payments must be made 48 hours prior to the payment due date to ensure the payment is received on time. A convenience fee will be assessed for each payment made.

Ways To Pay:
Online: www.wilmingtonnc.gov
Phone: 1-800-272-9829
Before you call please have your 7-digit water bill account number, jurisdiction code [4378], and credit or debit card handy.
By Mail: Include your statement and mail to: City of Wilmington P.O. Box 9001, Wilmington, NC 28402-9001
Night Depository: Running late-drop your statement and check or money order in the depository located at 305 Chestnut Street
In Person: Visit us at 305 Chestnut Street
Business Hours Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
Drive-thru Operation 9am-4pm
Questions: Contact our friendly Customer Service staff during regular business hours at 910-341-7804

Water Conservation

Save Water Save Money

Outdoor water use and irrigation accounts for about 70% of average household use. The remaining 30% is for indoor water use and includes drinking, cleaning, cooking, and leaks that haven't been repaired.

Studies have shown the average household uses approximately 100 gallons of water or more per person per day. When water is used more efficiently, this figure is reduced to about 70 gallons of water per person per day.

Take a moment to examine your water use habits. By saving water, you'll also save money. Not only will you save money on your utility bill, you will help lessen the demand on the water treatment plant.

An easy way to get started with water conservation in your home is to check indoor as well as outdoor faucets for leaks. A faucet with even a slow drip can waste a lot of water. Don't forget to check your toilet for leaks. A toilet can leak without any symptoms. This "silent leak" is the most common cause of high water bills. There is a simple dye test you can do to make sure your toilet is not leaking. Start with clear water both in the tank and in the bowl. Add several drops of food coloring to the tank. Wait 30 minutes. If any of the dyed water is now in the toilet bowl —your toilet is leaking.

Remember, by conserving water you are saving money too.

Water Conservation

There are a number of ways to save water, and they all start with YOU.

As our population grows, our demand for water grows with it. Unfortunately, our sources for water remain the same. To meet increasing demand, it's important that we all make a year-round habit of using water wisely.

The City of Wilmington is proud to be one of eight partners promoting **Water-Use it Wisely** in North Carolina. **Water-Use it Wisely** is the nation's most comprehensive water conservation community awareness campaign. **Water-Use it Wisely** communicates how a few simple changes to your water use habits can have a significant impact on overall water consumption.

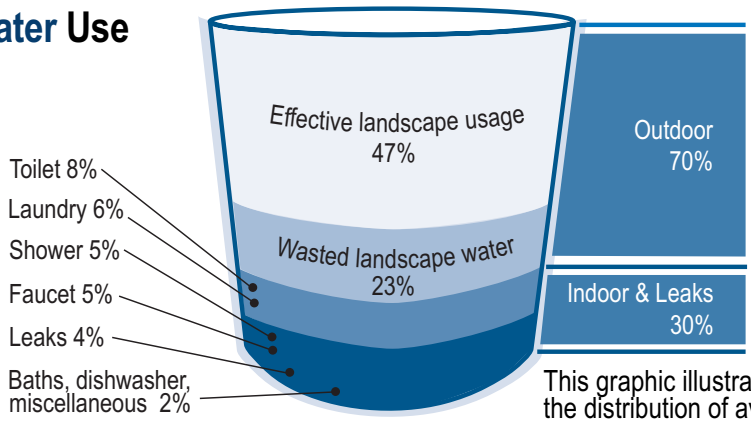
Water conservation starts with you. Simple lifestyle changes can save five to ten gallons of water a day and hundreds of gallons every month. Multiply that by every household and business in our area and it adds up to millions of gallons saved. Look for water-saving tips throughout this publication, or contact the Water Treatment Division at 343-3690 for additional information. There are a number of ways to save water, and they all start with you.

Water-Use it Wisely.

For more water saving tips visit:
www.wateruseitwisely.com

WATER USE IT WISELY

Residential Water Use



This graphic illustrates the distribution of average residential water use.

Water Conservation

Take the test
How many gallons do you use?

Have you ever thought about how many gallons of water you use to take a shower or how much water you use during the course of a day?

Match the gallons of water to the list of tasks below.

A. 30 gallons	D. 100 gallons	G. 10-25 gallons
B. 4 gallons	E. 39,000 gallons	H. 2-7 gallons
C. 9-20 gallons	F. 1/2 gallon	I. 180 gallons

1. _____ 5-minute shower
2. _____ Watering the lawn
3. _____ Washing dishes (by hand)
4. _____ Load of laundry
5. _____ Flushing the toilet
6. _____ Brushing your teeth (per minute)
7. _____ Drinking
8. _____ Manufacture new car and four tires
9. _____ Average amount used daily per person

BONUS Question:
How much of the earth's water is suitable for drinking?
circle one

1% 10% 25% 50%

Are you a conservation pro?
Check out the answers on the next page.

Get a Free Rain Gauge

As a general rule, lawns only need one inch of water per week. A hearty rain eliminates the need for watering. Be committed to reducing your outdoor water use. To assist you in your conservation efforts, the Water Treatment Division is offering free rain gauges to City residents. A limited supply is available, so call 343-3690 to get yours today!

Conserve Water Outdoors

- Use a broom (or blower) instead of a hose to clean your driveway or sidewalk.
- Don't water on windy days or within two days of rain. Adjust watering times (number of minutes) and the frequency (daily, twice a week, etc.) based on weather conditions.
- Install an inexpensive rain shutoff device so the sprinkler isn't running while it's raining.
- Water your lawn and garden early in the morning or evening, when temperatures are cooler, to minimize evaporation.
- Check and maintain your sprinkler heads to avoid watering the driveway, house or sidewalk.
- Water areas in shade about 30% less than sunny areas.
- Use a nozzle on your hose.
- Check outdoor faucets, sprinklers, and hoses for leaks.
- Choose water-efficient drip irrigation. Watering at the roots is highly effective so be careful not to over water.
- Consider using a rain barrel to catch rainwater which can be used to water plants.

Answers: 1.G, 2.I, 3.C, 4.A, 5.H, 6.B, 7.F, 8.E, 9.D
Bonus: 1%

Water Conservation

Water Saving Tips

WATER SAVING DEVICE #42
Before you lather up, install a low-flow showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save your family more than 500 gallons a week.

WATER SAVING DEVICE #85
Pick up the phone and report significant water losses from broken pipes, open hydrants and errant sprinklers to the property owner or your water provider.

WATER SAVING DEVICE #23
Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes. You'll save up to 1000 gallons a month.

WATER SAVING DEVICE #83
Wash clothes only when you have a full load and save up to 800 gallons each month.

For more water saving tips visit:
www.wateruseitwisely.com

Water Facts

The Sweeney Water Treatment Plant operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year to ensure the treatment and delivery of fresh clean drinking water in Wilmington.

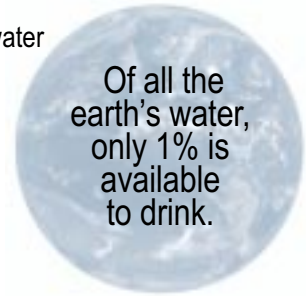
Without water, the earth would look like the moon. There wouldn't be any trees, or animals, or people. Next to the air we breathe, water is our most important resource.

After water is used, it goes down the drain. It then goes through the sewer to the wastewater treatment plant. Therefore, less water use equals less demand on our wastewater system.

One gallon of water weighs approximately 8.5 pounds.

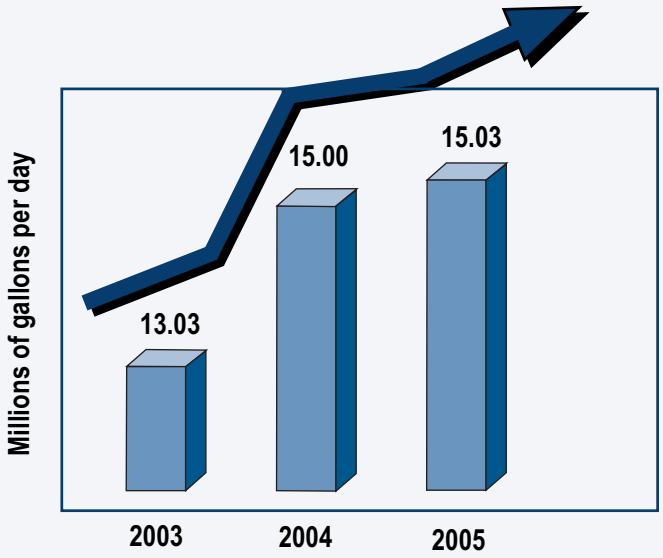
About two-thirds of the human body is water. Some parts of the body contain more water than others. For example, 70% of your skin is water.

Of all the earth's water, 97% is saltwater and 3% is freshwater. Only 1% of the freshwater is available for drinking, the other 2% is currently frozen.



For more water facts visit:
www.awwa.org

City Water Use is on the rise



The chart reflects the city's yearly average of water distributed over the last three years (in millions of gallons per day). The amount of water distributed to the City is steadily increasing mainly due to the population growth.

During 2004, on average we distributed 15 million gallons of water per day. For example, a swimming pool 267 feet long by 50 feet wide and 10 feet deep holds 1 million gallons. Now, think about 15 of those swimming pools; that's 15 million gallons... that's a lot of water.

The City is committed to providing you with a safe, dependable supply of drinking water today and tomorrow — no matter how many pools we have to fill. We are continuously looking for ways to improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources.

2005 City of Wilmington Water Quality Report

About this report

Each year, the City of Wilmington Public Utilities Department prepares a Water Quality Report for its customers, as mandated by federal law. This report provides important details about the quality of the water we provide to our community.

No Violations

During 2005, or during any compliance period ending in 2005 there were **NO** violations of drinking water standards.

Questions

If you have any questions about this report or quality of your water, please call the Sweeney Water Treatment Plant at 910-343-3690 or log on to our website at www.wilmingtonnc.gov.

En Espanol

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante. Traduzcalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.

343-3690

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. The City of Wilmington is committed to ensuring you receive clean water and to provide you with this information, because informed customers are our best allies.

What EPA wants you to know...

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some natural substances. The presence of these substances does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information can be obtained by calling the **Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

Some people may be more vulnerable to substances in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological substances are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include **microbial substances**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; **inorganic substances**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; **pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; **organic chemical substances**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and **radioactive substances**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain substances in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for substances in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

MICROBIOLOGICAL Substances

Substance (units)	MCL Violation	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
Total Coliform Bacteria *(presence or absence)*	NO	0.3%	0	5% of monthly samples are positive	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli *(presence or absence)*	NO	0	0	0*	Human and animal fecal waste

**Note: The MCL is exceeded if a routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive)*

TURBIDITY* Systems with population ≥10,000

Substance (units)	MCL Violation	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
Turbidity (NTU)	NO	0.270	NA	TT = 1 NTU Max	Soil Runoff
		99.92%		TT= percentage of samples ≤ 0.3 NTU	

**Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity rule requires that 95% of more of the monthly samples must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU.*

INORGANIC Substances

Substance (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
Antimony (ppb)	11/16/05	NO	ND	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic (ppb)	11/16/05	NO	ND	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppb)	11/16/05	NO	ND	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium (ppb)	11/16/05	NO	ND	4	4	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppb)	11/16/05	NO	ND	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppb)	11/16/05	NO	ND	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	11/16/05	NO	ND	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride (ppm)	11/16/05	NO	0.54	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizers and aluminum factories
Mercury [inorganic] (ppb)	11/16/05	NO	ND	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Selenium (ppb)	11/16/05	NO	ND	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Thallium (ppb)	11/16/05	NO	ND	0.5	2	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories

NITRATE

Substances (units)	MCL Violation	Your Water	Range low/high	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (ppm)						
Surface Water	NO	1.34	<1.00/1.62			Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Groundwater 1 - Lord's Creek	NO	ND	NA	10	10	
Groundwater 2 - Hillside	NO	ND	NA			
Groundwater 3 - Masonboro Forest	NO	ND	NA			
Groundwater 4 - Beacon Woods	NO	ND	NA			

UNREGULATED INORGANIC Substances

Substances (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Secondary MCL
Sulfate (ppm)	11/16/05	37.0	250

UNREGULATED VOC Substances

Substances (units)	Sample Date	Your Water
Bromoform (ppb)	07/20/05	4.6
Chloroform (ppb)	07/20/05	11.0
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	07/20/05	21.0
Chlorodibromomethane (ppb)	07/20/05	24.0

ASBESTOS

Substance (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
Total Asbestos (MFL)	08/03/05	NO	ND	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits

LEAD and COPPER

Substance (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	# of Sites Found Above the AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
Copper (ppm) *90th percentile*	Summer 2005	0.325	0 of 57 samples	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) *90th percentile*	Summer 2005	<3.0	1 of 57 samples	0	AL = 15	

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS

Our water system used [Step 1] as the method to comply with the disinfectants/disinfectant byproducts treatment technique requirements

Substance (units)	Sample Date	MCL/TT Violation	Your Water	Range low/high	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
Total Organic Carbon (ppm) (TOC)-RAW	Weekly Tuesday	NO	6.82	4.80/10.80	NA	TT	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon (ppm) (TOC)-Treated	Weekly Tuesday	NO	2.28	1.80/3.60	NA	TT	

Depending on the TOC in our source water, the system MUST have a certain % removal of TOC or must achieve alternative compliance criteria. If we do not achieve that % removal, there is an alternative % removal. If we fail to meet the alternative % removal, we are in violation of a Treatment Technique (TT).

STEP 1 TOC Removal Requirements (%)

Source Water TOC (mg/L)	Source Water Alkalinity mg/L as CaCO3 (in percentages)		
	0 - 60	**> 60 - 120**	**> 120**
> 2.0 - 4.0	35.0	25.0	15.0
> 4.0 - 8.0	45.0	35.0	25.0
> 8.0	50.0	40.0	30.0

DISINFECTANTS and DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

Substance (units)	MCL/MRDL Violation	Your Water (AVG)	Range low/high	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
TTHM (ppb) Total Trihalomethanes	NO	48.0	11.0/95.0	NA	80*	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb) Total Haloacetic Acid	NO	16.0	5.0/32.0	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromate (ppb)	NO	ND	NA	0	10	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	NO	1.59	.64/4.18	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4*	Water additive used to control microbes

**MCL based on running annual average*

WATER CHARACTERISTICS

Secondary Substances, required by the NC Public Water Supply Section, are substances that affect the taste, odor, and/or color of drinking water. These aesthetic substances normally do not have any health effects and normally do not affect the safety of your water.

Substance (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	Range	Secondary MCL
Iron (ppm)	11/16/05	ND	NA	0.3
Manganese (ppm)	11/16/05	ND	NA	0.05
Nickel (ppm)	11/16/05	ND	NA	NA
Sodium (ppm)	11/16/05	34.0	NA	NA
pH (s.u.)	11/16/05	7.25	NA	6.5 to 8.5

RADIOACTIVE Substances

Substance (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	Composite	NO	ND	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	NA	NA	NA	0	50*	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)**	Composite	NO	3.5	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	Composite	NO	ND	0	20.1	Erosion of natural deposits

**NOTE: The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles. **Total of all sources.*

CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

Our system monitored for Cryptosporidium and found no detected levels of 12 monthly samples in the source water and found no detects in a 12 month period of the finished water leaving the water treatment facility. **Cryptosporidium, *or Crypto***, is a microbial parasite which is found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although Crypto can be removed by filtration, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our facility utilizes a multi-barrier approach for removal; ***Ozone*** is used as a pre-oxidant and disinfectant in both pre and intermediate treatment of our water prior to filtration. Monitoring of our source water indicates the presence of these organisms; however, current test methods do not enable us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Symptoms of infections include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals are able to overcome the disease within a few weeks; however, immuno-compromised people have more difficulty and are at greater risk of developing severe, life-threatening illness. Immuno-compromised individuals are encouraged to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to prevent infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested for it to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

When you turn on your tap, consider the source

The water that is used by this system is surface water from the Cape Fear River located in Bladen County and from ground water wells located at Beacon Woods, Masonboro Forest, Lords Creek, and Hillside.

Source water assessment program (SWAP)

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Public Water Supply (PWS) Section, Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) conducted assessments for all drinking water sources across North Carolina. The purpose of the assessments was to determine the susceptibility of each drinking water source (well or surface water intake) to Potential Contamination Sources (PCSs). The results of the assessment are available in SWAP Assessment Reports that include maps, background information and a relative susceptibility rating of Higher, Moderate or Lower.

The relative susceptibility rating of each source for the City of Wilmington was determined by combining the contaminant rating (number and location of PCSs within the assessment area) and the inherit vulnerability rating (i.e., characteristics or existing conditions of the well or watershed and its delineated assessment area). The assessment findings are summarized in the table below:

Susceptibility of PCSs

SWAP Report Date April 1, 2005
PWSID #04-65-010

Source Name	Susceptibility Rating *
Cape Fear River	Moderate
Lower C.F. W&S Authority	Moderate
Beacon Woods Well	Lower
Masonboro Forest Well	Lower
Lords Creek Well	Lower
Hillside Well	Moderate

*It is important to understand that a susceptibility rating of "higher" does not imply poor water quality, only the systems' potential to become contaminated by PCS's in the assessment area.

The complete SWAP Assessment report for the City of Wilmington may be viewed at: www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/pws/swap. Please note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by the PWS Section, the results available on this web site may differ from the results that were available at the time this water quality report was prepared.

To obtain a printed copy of this report, please mail a written request to: Source Water Assessment Program - Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1634, or email request to swap@ncmail.net. Please indicate your system name, PWSID #04-65-010, and provide your name, mailing address and phone number. If you have any questions about the SWAP report please contact the **Source Water Assessment staff by phone at 919-715-2633.**

Violations your water system received

During 2005, or during any compliance period ending in 2005 we received **NO** violation that covered the time period of 2005.

Water quality data tables of detected substances

We routinely monitor for over 150 substances in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables on the previous pages list all the drinking water substances that we **detected** in the last round of sampling for the particular substance group. The presence of these substances does **not** necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. **Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in these tables is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2005.** The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Unregulated substances

Unregulated substances are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated substance monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated substances in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Definitions

(AL) Action Level
The concentration of a substance which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

(AVG) Average
Approximate or summary concentration, determined by dividing the total of all results by the number of analysis.

(MCL) Maximum Contaminant Level
The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water based on potential health effects.

(MCLG) Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

(MRDL) Maximum Residual Disinfection Level
The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

(MRDLG) Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

(MFL) Micron Fibers per Liter The unit used to measure asbestos concentration.

(N/A) Not-Applicable
Information not applicable/not required for that particular water system or for that particular rule.

(ND) Non-Detects
Laboratory analysis indicates that the substance is not present at the level of detection set for the particular methodology used.

(NTU) Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (Picocuries per liter)
Measures radioactivity in water.

(ppm) Parts per million One part per million corresponds to one minute in *two years,* or a single penny in $10,000.

(ppb) Parts per billion One part per billion corresponds to one minute in *2,000 years*, or one penny in $10 million.

Range Lowest to the highest levels detected.

(TT) Treatment Technique
A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Turbidity MCL
Less than 0.3 NTU's in 95% of all samples collected.

Note: MCL are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects for many regulated substances, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.